



Arizona's 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC)

Youth Development Framework and Philosophy

21st CCLC programs that promote youth development understand the importance of involving the right staff to foster positive relationships within the program. Having the right adults involved whether they are certified teachers, paraprofessionals, volunteers or peer mentors can lead to a safe and supportive environment where a culture is set up for positive learning environments. Implementing a youth development framework means youth are given plenty of opportunities to share their insight, that they are given choice and leadership opportunities in the program. Classes and activities offered are engaging. Routinely, project-based and inquiry based activities are a major portion of the program outside of the school day.

Youth development is encouraged when 21st CCLC programs...

- ✓ build relationships with students in smaller groups
- ✓ offer project-based and inquiry-based learning opportunities
- ✓ incorporate physical movement into learning activities
- ✓ embed mathematics, language and reading instruction into all offerings, enabling students to gain mastery of academics through avenues that are exciting/interesting to them
- ✓ encourage reflection, student voice, leadership and choice

See these pages of the 21st CLCC website for highly relevant additional information:

Application Information page- Other Resources section near the bottom of the page
<http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/application-information/>

Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) page
<http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/stem/>

Additional Resources page
<http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/additional-resources/>

Additional resources:

40 Developmental Assets (SEARCH Institute)
<http://www.search-institute.org/research/developmental-assets>
<http://www.search-institute.org/content/40-developmental-assets-adolescents-ages-12-18>

Arizona Quality Standards for Out-of-School Time Programs
<http://azafterschool.org/promoting-quality/quality-standards/>